



## **HB 2028-A Removes Barriers for the Integration of Pharmacists' Clinical Care Services Consistent with Their Training and Expertise**

### **Pharmacy Services Have Expanded in the 21<sup>st</sup> Century**

Pharmacists have the education and expertise to address costly challenges facing the health care system in Oregon. They are well-positioned to work with people who have multiple chronic conditions to manage the increased use of complex medications with efficiency and cost-effectiveness. **HB 2028-A** provides for clinical patient care services such as medication management therapy, wellness counseling and disease prevention services. This innovative integration of pharmacists into the Care Team has resulted in improved patient access, quality outcomes and reduced costs.

### **Collaborative Practice Agreements and Clinical Care Services**

Under **HB 2028-A**, the practice of clinical pharmacy and the provision of patient care services is authorized when, *as part of the collaborative healthcare team*, a pharmacist provides continued patient care to optimize medication therapy and to promote the patient's health and wellness. Patient care services would include medication therapy management, comprehensive medication review and post-diagnostic disease treatment services.

### **Barriers in Oregon Currently Restrict Pharmacy Clinical Care Services**

**HB 2028-A** includes progressive, collaborative language that would allow pharmacists, pharmacies, or groups of pharmacies to enter into agreements with Payers, CCO's, ACO's, health systems and other physician groups to provide clinical pharmacy services.

### **Lack of Provider Recognition Creates Reimbursement Gaps**

The formal recognition of pharmacists as providers in state law is a key step toward ensuring that adequate payment is available to support the key services they provide. **HB 2028-A** establishes provider recognition for pharmacists delivering services within their scope of practice and authorizes payment for those services if delivered pursuant to a services agreement with a payer. The bill does not create a mandate to provide clinical pharmacy services nor does it require that pharmacists provide those services or that payers reimburse pharmacists for those services.

### **Statewide Protocols**

**HB 2028-A** would utilize the existing statewide protocol process used by the Oregon Health Authority and the Board of Pharmacy to establish public health protocols for other patient care services such as smoking cessation and travel health services.

**The Oregon State Pharmacy Association and the Oregon Society of Health-System Pharmacists urge your support of HB 2028-A. Multiple studies from across the nation show that passage of this legislation will help integrate pharmacists into team-based models and will result in improved health outcomes and a return on investment.**